

Utility Patent Application

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

5

Patent Application based on: Docket No. 00-811

Inventor: Vinroy Pennington and Aston Pennington

10

Attorney: John D. Gugliotta, P.E., Esq.

EMERGENCY URINAL KIT

15

RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present invention was first described in Disclosure Document No. 474,309, filed on May 19, 2000. There are no previously filed, nor currently any co-pending applications, anywhere in the world.

20

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to urine receptacles and the like and, more particularly, to a urine collection device in combination with a standard water hose connection for flushing and detachable inlet hoses capable of being carried in a pocket formed at the side of the device.

2. Description of the Related Art

Embarrassment is perhaps the worst aspect for people suffering from incontinence. Not only do accidents themselves cause embarrassment, the solution of incontinence pads or "adult diapers" leads to embarrassment as well.

5 These pads are often bulky and can be clearly seen in outline form under one's clothes. Additionally, they are uncomfortable and hot to wear especially in warm weather. People who do not suffer from incontinence, but a weak bladder or frequent urination also suffer from similar problems. It is sometimes almost impossible to sleep or travel in a car due to the need to urinate frequently.

10 A search of the prior art did not disclose any patents that read directly on the claims of the instant invention; however, the following references were considered related.

The following patents disclose a garment for fixing a urine bag on a user.

15 U.S. Patent no. 5,935,116 issued in the name of *Kristensen*
U.S. Patent no. 4,421,509 issued in the name of *Schneider et al.*
U.S. Patent no. 4,173,979 issued in the name of *Odis*

The following patents describe a support system for a catheter leg bag.

20 U.S. Patent no. 5,865,821 issued in the name of *Lowey*
U.S. Patent no. 3,897,785 issued in the name of *Barto, Jr.*

U.S. Patent no. 5,735,837 issued in the name of *Ishikawa* discloses a

urine absorbent bag for male incontinence.

U.S. Patent no. 5,571,095 issued in the name of *Lu* describes a disposable urine bag for females.

U.S. Patent no. 4,511,358 issued in the name of *Johnson, Jr. et al.* discloses a urine bag carrier with a stretchable front panel.

And, U.S. Patent no. 4,387,726 issued in the name of *Denard* describes a disposable urine collection device for males.

Consequently, there exists a need for a means by which those who suffer from incontinence, a weak bladder or frequent urination can be afforded a solution to this problem in a manner which is inconspicuous to all of those around him.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, it is an object of the invention to provide for an improved urine receptacle for males.

It is a feature of the present invention to provide a urine collection device specifically adapted to conform in shape to the frontal contours of the wearer's body.

It is another feature of the present invention to provide a urine collection

device having a valved drain mechanism.

Briefly described according to one embodiment of the present invention, an emergency urinal kit is a urine collection system for people suffering from incontinence, people who are bedridden, or people who do not have easy access to restroom facilities, such as those who are traveling. The invention consists of a small rubber collection funnel, attached to a connecting hose and an inlet valve. The person simply places the collection funnel against the urination opening and relieves themselves. The rubber tube carries the urine to a flexible, soft plastic collection bag, where escaping air exits through an air relief valve. When finished, the user simply closes all valves. To empty the device, the user opens the air relief valve and an exit valve on the bottom. The device is then washed out and rinsed and stored in a carrying case for the next time it is needed. A carrying strap provides for easy transportation.

The use of the present invention allows or those unable to use a restroom or bathroom the ability to relieve themselves in a discrete manner that is quick, easy and effective

An advantage of the present invention is that it provides for a urine receptacle provides for a valved drain mechanism.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The advantages and features of the present invention will become better understood with reference to the following more detailed description and claims taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like elements are identified with like symbols, and in which:

5 FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an emergency urine kit according to the preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view thereof,

10 FIG. 3 is a detailed partial elevational view of a receiver flushing port 32 for use with the present invention;

FIG. 4a is a male collector funnel 40 for use with the present invention;

and

FIG. 4b is a female collector funnel 42 for use with the present invention; and

15 FIG. 4c is an alternate embodiment for a male collector funnel for use with the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

1. Detailed Description of the Figures

Referring now to FIG. 1-2, an emergency urinal kit, generally noted as 10, is provided including a urine receptacle 12 in conjunction with a series of specifically adapted collector funnels 14. According to the present invention, the urine receptacle 12 is formed of a centrally disposed collection receiver 16 having a front receiver surface 17a parallel to and opposite a rear receiver surface 17b. Each receiver surface 17a, 17b is anticipated as being a generally pliable vertical sidewall supporting a pocket 18 which forms an internal volume (not shown) and having an entry orifice releasably closed by a pocket flap 19. Along the lower portion of the front receiver surface is a lower support hook 20. Formed as a linear fabric strap or elastic cord, the lower support hook 20 is affixed at each end to the front receiver surface and forms a grasping loop allowing the user to support the urine receptacle 12 upon an available hook or similar environmental supportive structure. Along the upper portion of the rear receiver surface 17b is an upper support hook 21. Similarly formed as a linear fabric strap or elastic cord, the upper support hook 21 is affixed at each end to the rear receiver surface 17b and forms a grasping loop allowing the user to support the urine receptacle 12 upon an available hook or similar environmental supportive structure.

Along the lowermost seam of the collection receiver 16 is a receiver

discharge 26 in fluid communication with the internal volume of the collection receiver 16. Terminating the receiver discharge 26 is a discharge valve 28 for controllably releasing the contents of the collection receiver 16. Along the uppermost seam of the collection receiver 16 is a collection conduit 30 and a receiver flushing port 32. The collection conduit 30 is in fluid communication with the internal volume of the collection receiver 16, and has a releasable connection 34 for connection with any of the series of specifically adapted collector funnels 14. The collection conduit 30 is envisioned as a linearly elongated plastic tube or hose for allowing easy, general manipulation of the collector funnels 14 and allows for collection and transmission of urine to the collection receiver 16.

5
10

In conjunction with FIG. 3, a receiver flushing port 32 is shown in greater detail. A receiver nozzle 36 forms a means of fluid communication with the internal volume of the collection receiver 16. The receiver nozzle 36 forms an internal female thread 37 for threadably engaging with a conventionally available garden hose. In this manner, the interior volume of the collection receiver 16 can be thoroughly flushed and rinsed adequately and easily with water after, before, or between uses. A sealing cap 38 forms a plug having male threads 39 for threadably engaging with the internal female threads 37 to seal the collection

15

receiver 16 during use.

Further, a support attachment 50 is designed as a hanger/carrier for hand carrying or to hang about a user's neck.

Finally, in FIG. 4a, FIG. 4b, ana pair of a male collector funnel 40 and female collector funnel 42 are shown, respectively, forming typical members of the specifically adapted collector funnels 14. It is envisioned that the collector funnels 14 would be formed such as to be easily and inexpensively disposable.

The male collector funnel 40 forms a cylindrical sidewall. In an alternate embodiment, as shown in FIG. 4c, the sidewall is formed of a flexible membrane 43 that is rollable. In this manner, the sidewall can be stored in a compact, rolled condition and deployed by "unrolling" the flexible sidewall. This is especially useful for bedridden or infirm individuals. In either case, the interior volume of the male collector funnel 40 is in fluid communication with a drain tube 44 for connection with the collection conduit 30. The female collector funnel 42 forms a rigid sidewall 45 terminating at the upper end in an upper sealing ridge 47. The upper sealing ridge 47 forms a contoured upper edge for specifically adapted to seal against the user's body when pressed against the user's groin, forming an easy collection point for communication of urine to a drain tube 44 for connection with the collection conduit 30.

2. Operation of the Preferred Embodiment

The use of the present invention allows men suffering from mild cases of incontinence the ability to lead a normal lifestyle in a manner that is quick, easy and effective. The invention provides a means for those males who cannot quite make it to a restroom before urination begins. After use, the collection receiver
5 **16** can be completely and thoroughly rinsed with water.

As designed, a device embodying the teachings of the present invention is easily applied. The foregoing description is included to illustrate the operation of the preferred embodiment and is not meant to limit the scope of the invention.
10

As one can envision, an individual skilled in the relevant art, in conjunction with the present teachings, would be capable of incorporating many minor modifications that are anticipated within this disclosure. Therefore, the scope of the invention is to be broadly limited only by the following claims.